

Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI)

DANTES Test Centers' Authorization

Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI) authorizes military installations with DANTES test centers to administer the CCI certification examinations and registry examinations to uniformed military personnel.

Background

CCI is a not-for-profit corporation established as an independent credentialing agency in September 1988 to administer credentialing examinations. The corporation resulted from the merger of the testing components of the National Alliance of Cardiovascular Technologist (NACT), the American Cardiology Technologist Association (ACTA), and the National Board of Cardiovascular Testing (NBCVT). CCI represents the summation of testing processes that began in the 1960's for the cardiovascular professional.

CCI's Address

CCI
1500 Sunday Drive, Ste. 102
Raleigh, NC 27607

Phone: (919) 861-4539
Toll Free: 1-800-326-0268
Fax: (919) 787-4259

Description

Certification and Registry

CCI offers credentials to qualified candidates as listed below:

Examination Offered	Who Should Apply	Credential Awarded
Certified Cardiographic Technician	Technicians working in ECG, stress testing, and Holter monitoring.	CCT
Cardiovascular Science	Cardiovascular professionals who are not currently certified and seeking Registry credentials	No credential awarded.
Invasive Registry *	Cardiovascular professionals working in catheterization or Invasive cardiovascular laboratories.	RCIS – Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist
Non-Invasive (Echocardiography) Registry *	Cardiovascular professionals working primarily in Echocardiography.	RCS – Registered Cardiac Sonographer
Vascular Ultrasound Registry *	Cardiovascular professionals working in vascular ultrasound.	RVS – Registered Vascular Specialist

* Specialty exams.

Multiple-choice Examinations

Each examination contains 175 to 200 multiple-choice questions. Candidates are allowed 3 hours to complete each exam.

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Description, Continued

Certified Cardiographic Technician Examination

The Certified Cardiographic Technician (CCT) examination content areas by percentages are:

Number	Certified Cardiographic Technician (CCT) Examination	Percentages
1	Basic Cardiovascular Anatomy and Physiology	24
2	Electrophysiology	6.7
3	ECG Techniques and Recognition	27.3
4	Stress Test Techniques	18.6
5	Holter Monitoring	16.7
6	Cardiac Medications	6.7
	Total	100

Cardiovascular Science Examination

The Basic Cardiovascular Science examination content areas by percentages are:

Number	Cardiovascular Science Examination Areas	Percentages
1	General Mathematics	15
2	Physical Principles	15
3	Clinical Principles and Applications	15
4	General Anatomy and Physiology	5
5	Cardiovascular Anatomy and Physiology	45
6	Quality Assurance/Quality Control	5
	Total	100

Note: Candidates who have completed a cardiovascular program approved by the Joint Review Committee of Cardiovascular Technology through CAHEA are exempt from taking the Cardiovascular Science examination.

**A CERTIFICATE OF GRADUATION MUST ACCOMPANY
THE COMPLETED APPLICATION.**

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Description, Continued

Invasive Registry Examination

The Invasive Registry examination content areas by percentages are:

Number	Invasive Registry Examination Areas	Percentages
1	Cardiac Anatomy and Physiology	5
2	Cardiovascular Diseases and Pathophysiology	10
3	Diagnostic Techniques	24
4	Intervention	13
5	Hemodynamic Data	18
6	Pharmacology	5
7	Instrumentation	10
8	Patient Care and Patient Assessment	15
	Total	100

Non-Invasive (Echocardiography) Registry Examination

The Non-Invasive Registry examination content areas by percentages are:

Number	Non-Invasive (Echocardiography) Registry Examination	Percentages
1	Patient Management Care, Basic Pharmacology	5
2	Clinical Medicine and Therapeutic Measures	5
3	Ultrasound, Doppler, Color Flow Physics and Instrumentation	20
4	Pathophysiology of Cardiovascular Diseases	20
5	Two-Dimensional Echocardiography	20
6	Advanced Techniques in Echocardiography	4
7	Cardiac Doppler and Color Flow Echocardiography	14
8	Electrocardiography and Holter Monitoring	5
9	Exercise Stress Testing	5
10	Other Non-Invasive Modalities	2
	Total	100

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Description, Continued

Vascular Ultrasound Registry Examination

The Non-Invasive Vascular Technology examination content areas by percentages are:

Number	Vascular Ultrasound Registry Examination	Percentages
1	Anatomy and Physiology	15
2	Patient Assessment	4
3	Disease States	20
4	Evaluation of Blood Flow	29
5	Instrumentation and Physics	25
6	Advanced Techniques	2
7	Quality Assurance and Quality Control	2
8	Vascular Surgery	3
	Total	100

Registration

Registration Process

To register for CCI certification examinations:

Step	Registration Process
1	<p>TCOs or candidates may obtain an application and a <i>Cardiovascular Overview</i> by calling or sending their request to:</p> <p>CCI 1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102 Raleigh, NC 27607</p> <p>Phone: (919) 861-4539 Toll Free: (800) 326-0268 Fax: (919) 787-4259</p>
2	<p>Examinees must complete the application form being sure to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read the application instructions, and• Note qualifications for admission and other information before attempting to complete the form. <p>NOTE: All requested information should be typed or printed, EXCEPT SIGNATURES. Candidates should also use complete names and social security numbers on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applications• Answer sheets, and• Correspondence concerning examinations <p>CANDIDATES SHOULD USE THE SAME NAME ON THE APPLICATION THAT WILL BE USED ON THE CERTIFICATE, IF ONE IS AWARDED.</p>
3	<p>The TCO submits the application form and fee with a letter on official stationery.</p>

Program Materials and Assistance

Materials

The *Cardiovascular Examination Overview* provides detailed outlines, sample questions, and reference lists for the five CCI examinations and may be ordered from:

CCI
1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102
Raleigh, NC 27607

Phone: (919) 861-4539
Toll Free: (800) 326-0268
Fax: (919) 787-4259

Assistance

Address any questions concerning:

- Applicant's qualifications
- Fees
- Educational and experiential requirements, or
- Any matters related to CCI

To:

CCI
1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102
Raleigh, NC 27607

Phone: (919) 861-4539
Toll Free: (800) 326-0268
Fax: (919) 787-4259

Home Page: <http://www.cci-online.org>

Examination Qualifications

General Examination Qualifications

Candidates must meet the following general qualifications:

- Be 18 years of age or older and have a high school diploma or GED at the time of application.
- Fulfill one of the qualifications listed in the table below and on the next pages for the exam for which they are applying.
- Provide documentation to support the qualification under which they are applying. Required documentation for each qualification is listed below.

Certified Cardiographic Qualifications	Required Documentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently enrolled as a student or a graduate of a cardiovascular or accredited allied health-training program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student verification form contained in the application. Graduates may send certificates of completion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently employed or previously employed in the field of Cardiovascular Technology or in a recognized allied health field.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The letter of employment verification contained in the application.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed requirements for a graduate or undergraduate degree from a recognized institution in a field related to science or physical health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational Transcripts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteer service in the field of Cardiovascular Technology for a minimum of 2 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Documentation supporting technical activities for a 2 year period.

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Examination Qualifications, Continued

Meet one of these Cardiovascular Science Qualifications	Required Documentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently enrolled as a student or a graduate from a cardiovascular or allied health-training program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student verification form contained in the application. Graduates may send certificates of completion.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two years in the field at the time of application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The letter of employment verification form in the application.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An associate degree or equivalent college hours in health, science, natural science, nursing, engineering or any other primary science program and one year in the field at the time of application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts and the letter of employment friction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Baccalaureate degree with six months in the field at the time of application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts and the letter of employment verification.

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Examination Qualifications, Continued

Meet one of these Registry Examination Qualifications	Required Documentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two years in the field at the time of application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The letter of employment verification contained in the application.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An associate degree or equivalent college hours in health, science, natural science, nursing, engineering, or any other primary science and one year in the field at the time of application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts and the letter of employment verification.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A graduate of a programmatically accredited Cardiovascular or Diagnostic Medical Sonography program in the specialty for which the examination is requested.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts or certificate of completion required with application. Students may send the verification form in the application, however a graduation certificate will be required before exam results are released.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Baccalaureate degree in science or a health related field, and six months in the field at the time of application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts and the letter of employment verification.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graduation from a non-accredited Cardiovascular or Sonography program or a program accredited through an agency other than CAAHEP which has a minimum of one year of specialty training and a minimum of 800 clinical hours in the specialty for which examination is requested.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transcripts and verification of clinical hours are required with the application. The student verification form may be used to verify clinical hours for current students and graduates.

Fees

CCI Fees

Fees for the CCI examinations are:

CCI Examinations	Fee
Non-refundable filing fee	\$55
Cardiovascular Exemption Application	\$75
Cardiovascular Science Exam	\$120
Certified Cardiographic Exam	\$120
All Registry Exams (each request)	\$150
Self Evaluation Fee (Registrants only)	\$85
Late Application Fee	\$50
Special Site Fee	\$30
Change request after examination deadline	\$30
Exam Date change after deadline (No Show)	\$55
Hand Score (requested or necessary)	\$25
Charge for Returned Checks	\$30

NOTE: Checks or money orders should be made payable to CCI. Visa or MasterCard is accepted. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Administration

Administration of CCI Examinations

The Cardiographic Certification Examination and the Basic Cardiovascular Science Examination are administered three times a year in:

- March
- June
- September

NOTE: The Registry examinations are offered only on the September date. (See *DANTES Calendar of National Certification Tests* for actual test date at:

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/deph/Part3/CCICAL.rtf

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Administration, Continued

DANTES Administration

CCI administers examinations through DANTES authorized education centers. Military personnel and their dependents may test in conus and overseas locations. Candidates wishing to use DANTES must list it as their exam site of choice on the application form. In addition, a letter providing the name of the DANTES Test Control Officer **MUST** be supplied with the application. Exam administration will then be scheduled by CCI, according to CCI policies.

Administrative Instructions for TCOs

Important CCI examination information for DANTES Test Centers is listed below:

Number	Administrative Rules for DANTES Test Centers
1	<p>There are two test sessions a candidate can take on the September exam date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both the Basic Cardiovascular Science examination, or• Two Registry examinations
2	<p>Candidates will receive instructions on when to report to the test center approximately 10 days prior to the test date. If this information is not received in a timely manner, candidates should contact CCI at:</p> <p>Phone: (919) 861-4539 Toll Free: 1-800-326-0268 Fax: (919) 787-4259</p>
3	<p>Candidates are allowed 3 hours for each examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0900 – 1200, and• 1300 – 1600
4	<p>Because the civilian test dates are on Saturday, TCOs may select one date within the examination period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday – Friday immediately prior to the civilian test date, or• The Monday following that date. <p>NOTE: The date selected should best meet the needs of all applicants at the DANTES test center.</p>

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Administration, Continued

Military Administration	ADMINISTER THE CCI EXAMINATIONS TO ELIGIBLE ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL ON AN UNFUNDED (EXAMINEE PAYS) BASIS UNLESS MILITARY REGULATIONS PROVIDE OTHERWISE.
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Civilian Administration	DANTES Test Centers may administer the CCI examinations to the following civilians on an UNFUNDED (EXAMINEE PAYS) AND SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS in accordance with local command policy and Service regulations:
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- Civilians who are working in a military setting
 - Civilians who are not working in a military setting, but who live in a country where there is no permanent CCI test site
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Scoring

Completed Examinations	Return completed examination test cards and sheets to: CCI 1500 SUNDAY DRIVE, SUITE 102 RALEIGH, NC 27607
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Reports Receipt	Candidates will receive scores, certification, and registry status within 6-8 weeks of test administration.
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Certificate for Cardiographic Technician	Candidates who pass the Certification Examination for Cardiographic Technicians will receive a certificate suitable for framing and may use the designation CCT after their name.
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Scoring, Continued

Certificate for Registry and Cardiovascular Science Examinations

Candidates who pass a specialty (Registry) examination and the Cardiovascular Science examination will receive a certificate suitable for framing and may use the designation RCVT after their name.

Refunds, Cancellations, or Changes

Requests

Requests for examination **cancellations** *or* to **change** examination **dates** **must** be in writing and be received **10 working days before the exam date**.

Refund Policy

The following chart specifies the refund policy for various types of requests:

Number	If...	Then...
1	“Hold Over” requests are made	Fees are not refundable
2	Cancellations are received 10 working days prior to exam date	Refunds are made within 2-4 weeks – <u>minus the filing fee of \$55</u>
3	Cancellations or changes which are not received 10 working days before the examination date or a no-show status is given	Fees are not refundable

NOTE: Only one “Hold Over” is allowed before a new fee must be submitted.

No refunds will be made to examinees who do not show up for an examination for any reason.

Where to Mail Requests

Mail cancellation and “Hold Over” requests to:

**CCI
1500 SUNDAY DRIVE, SUITE 102
RALEIGH, NC 27607**

Re-testing

Re-testing	Examinees who do not attain a passing score may retake any examination as often as desired, after filing a new application and fee.
Specialty Testing	Candidates registered in one specialty may take any other specialty examination. A new application and fee are required.
Pass BCS Fail Specialty	Candidates who pass the Basic Cardiovascular Science (BCS) examination and fail the Specialty examination need to retake the BCS in order to retest in their specialty.
Self-Evaluate	Registered technologists may retake the examination for which they are already registered for self-evaluating purposes. An application and fee is required.

Problems

Problems	<p>If applications, descriptive information, examinations, examination scores, or certificates are not received in a timely manner, contact CCI directly at:</p> <p>CML Phone: (919) 861-4539 Toll Free: (800) 326-0268 Fax: (919) 787-4259</p>
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Security

Test Loss or Compromise

Refer to Part I of the *DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH)* for complete instructions if there is a CCI test loss or compromise.

Contact DANTES immediately and refer to specific Service regulations for complete procedures. DANTES address is:

DANTES	Phone: (850) 452-1360
Code 20F	DSN: 922-1360
6490 Saufley Field Road	Fax: (850) 452-1161
Pensacola, FL 32509-5243	DSN: 922-1161

WEB Pages and E-mail Addresses

DANTES Web Address

Access the DANTES web pages at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>.

CCI Web Address

Access the CCI web page at www.cci-online.org.

DANTES E-mail address

The DANTES Certification Program E-mail address is certprog@voled.doded.mil.
